Smart specialiserings och sammanhållningspolitik

Framsteg och framtidsutsikter

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DG Regio
Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2017

Significant disparities both between and within Member States

➢ No "One-size-fits-all" approach possible
A modern economy and fair transition for EU regions

Europe is experiencing a period of profound changes brought by globalisation, new emerging and digital technologies, automation and decarbonisation.

The benefits of globalisation are unequally spread. It is indispensable to help Europeans adapt to these profound changes and to help the EU economy to become more resilient.
Smart specialisation in a reformed cohesion policy

KEY FIGURES over the period 2014-2020:

- EUR 40 billion ERDF to R&I projects (EUR 65 billion including co-financing) + EUR 1.8 billion from ESF
- over 120 smart specialisation strategies whose implementation is supported by the S3-Platform
- More than 15 000 enterprises will be able to introduce new products into the market
- 140 000 start-ups will be offered financial support
- 350 000 new jobs will be created
Communication on RIS3

Identifies **four challenges for boosting innovation-led growth**

- **Reforms of R&I Systems**
- **Innovation investments across regions**
- **Less-developed and industrial transition regions**
- **Synergies and complementarities between EU policies and instruments**

**S3 as a response**
Innovation investment across regions

Already existing models of cooperation:

- Thematic Smart Specialisation Platforms
- Vanguard Initiative

Challenges remaining:

- integrate other large European initiatives with these platforms and their regional partnerships
- facilitate the commercialisation and scale-up of inter-regional innovation projects
- incentivise joint business investment
**Smart Pilot: Strategic interregional investment projects**

**KEY ELEMENTS**
- 1M€ per year
- 5-10 pilot partnerships
- Dedicated technical assistance to support them

**Support to development of project pipelines for commercialisation and scale-up:**
- Proactive support from European Commission services
- Technical assistance through dedicated facility

→ Improved use of financial EU support and increased private sector leverage, more visible EU action on the ground
## Selected partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic Area</th>
<th>Coordinated By</th>
<th>Lead Regions</th>
<th>Participating Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3D printing</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</td>
<td>Flanders (BE), Noord-Brabant (NL), Norte (PT)</td>
<td>Emilia-Romagna (IT), Wallonia (BE), Lombardy (IT), Aragon (ES), Saxony (DE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bio-economy</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</td>
<td>Flanders (BE)</td>
<td>Wallonia (BE), Lower-Austria (AT), North Rhine-Westphalia (DE), Emilia-Romagna (IT), Navarra (ES), Noord-Brabant (NL), Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI), Łódzkie (PL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
<td>New thematic area</td>
<td>Brittany (FR)</td>
<td>Estonia, North Rhine Westphalia (DE), Central Finland (FI), Castilla y Leon (ES)</td>
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<tr>
<td>De- &amp; re-manufacturing for circular economy</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial modernisation</td>
<td>Lombardy (IT)</td>
<td>Tampere (FI), Norte (PT), Scotland (UK), Saxony (DE), Basque Country (ES), Flanders (BE), Emilia Romagna (IT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>High-tech farming</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-food</td>
<td>Tuscany (IT)</td>
<td>Estonia, Flanders (BE), Weser-Ems (DE), Central Macedonia (EL), West Macedonia (EL), Galicia (ES), Extremadura (ES), South Ostrobothnia (FI), Pays De la Loire (FR), Marche (IT), Veneto (IT), Emilia-Romagna (IT), North East Romania (RO), <strong>East Central Sweden (SE)</strong>, Northern Netherlands (NL), Gelderland (NL), Noord Holland (NL), Zuid Holland (NL), North-Brabant (NL), Limburg (BE), Northern Ireland (UK), Centro (PT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine renewable energy</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Energy</td>
<td>Basque Country (ES) &amp; Scotland (UK)</td>
<td>Asturias (ES), Andalucia (ES), Navarra (ES), Norte (PT), Flanders (BE), Emilia Romagna (IT), Lombardy (IT), South Denmark (DK), <strong>Skåne (SE)</strong>, Dalarna (SE), Ostrobothnia (FI), Brittany (FR), Cornwall (UK), Sogn og Fjordane (N)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable buildings</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Energy</td>
<td>Andalucía (ES)</td>
<td>Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (IT), Central Slovenia (SI), South Karelia (FI), Provence-Alpes-Côte-d’Azur (FR), Algarve (PT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traceability and big data in agri-food</td>
<td>Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform for Agri-food</td>
<td>Andalucía (ES), Emilia-Romagna (IT)</td>
<td>Pays de la Loire (FR), Friuli Venezia Giulia (IT), Aragon (ES), Extremadura (ES), Pazardzhik (BG), South Ostrobothnia Region (FI), South Savo (FI)</td>
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Less-developed & industrial transition regions

Current obstacles:

**Less-developed regions:**
- R&I infrastructure still very fragmented and not sustainable
- difficulties in building institutional legal environment open to innovation
- lack of appropriate human capital and skill development
- lack of connection with innovation communities and global value chains

**Industrial transition regions:**
- lack of appropriate skill-base
- high unit labour costs
- de-industrialisation
- unable to attract extra-regional investments
- weakness in the capacity of exploiting funding opportunities (notably, Horizon 2020, COSME)
- less funding than less-developed regions under cohesion policy

**EU support so far:** TAIEX Peer 2 Peer, S3 Platform, ESF, Horizon 2020 Teaming, Twinning, ERA-Chair, COST actions, Stairway to Excellence and Lagging Regions project, EIT-RIS, Digital Innovation Hubs, etc.

Need for more targeted support
Pilotregioner för industriregioner i omställning & kolregioner

Source: European Commission
Other support mechanisms from DG Regio – AMI list experts

An example from Östra Mellansverige
H2020 call for proposal

European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments
Deadline 8 March 2018

The call shall contribute to:

➢ developing and implementing a joint cluster partnership strategy with a common “European” vision for a given specific smart specialisation priority, identifying collaboration and investment opportunities and drafting a roadmap of such joint activities;

➢ implementing joint activities with a view to mobilise inter-regional collaboration and investments of industry actors (SMEs) and provide related business, technology and growth support services for the preparation and implementation of joint innovation and investments projects; and

➢ improving the cluster-specific framework conditions in the partners’ regions
Synergies and complementarities

A substantial number of regional, national and European policy programmes and instruments exist. To increase their impact in delivering key European priorities it will be necessary to improve synergies and complementarities. Smart specialisation provides a strategic framework to develop them.

Actions already taken by the EU:

- Combination of EU funds in a single project (cohesion policy, EFSI, Horizon 2020)
- Alignment of rules for simplified cost options (cohesion policy and Horizon 2020)
- Increased possibility to spend cohesion policy funding outside programme areas
- Guidelines for combining cohesion policy funds and EFSI
- Initiatives: Stairway to Excellence, Seal of Excellence
- Commission investment envoys
- Changes in art.70 (Omnibus Regulation)
Conclusions

Smart specialisation represents a new way of working together, which ensures stronger local and regional participation in decision-making, and whose potential can be scaled-up for the benefit of the EU as a whole.

This approach may be replicated and used in a broader context as a useful tool to implement the future EU budget.

Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances